

clerk has no abstract from which he can copy. He must, therefore, learn how to abstract them for himself. He procures some sheets of brief paper and types at the top of the first page on the right hand half of the sheet— -Abstract of the Title of

John Smith to
freehold
property known as
Hill
Place, Oldcastle,
Surrey.

" Hereditaments " (sometimes used to denote property) is a somewhat formidable word, but only means land or houses. It is one of the words of ancient law remaining to-day, and is frequently used in connection with conveyancing.

The preparation of an abstract of title is an art which has to be acquired by practice. One has to learn how to condense matter without sacrificing the sense; and also how to discriminate between covenants and recitals which can be dismissed in a few words and those which must be set out at length. Before actually commencing his abstract, the solicitor's clerk should ascertain whether his principal or firm prefer their abstracts to be prepared in the old way or have adopted the new abbreviated form set out in the Sixth Schedule to the Law of Property Act, 1925. Enquiry amongst a number of solicitors has elicited that

the old full
abstract is still preferred to the new
method. We
will, therefore, prepare our abstract in
the old
way.

The date of the deed should be
given in the
left hand of the margin (which margin
should be
about 3 in. wide). Under the date
should be stated
the amount of the stamp duty paid on
the deed—
as "Stamp, £3 15s. od."